3/3/70

Dear Howard,

I have just finished reading your Pillinger interview. It is really very important and a fine piece of work.

He fascinates me. I want to be able to talk to him on the basis of confidence: what I tell and show him goes no further and vice versa. Not for publication in my writing (and most of what you went into is what I consider past me in my own work).

You and he got bogged down in some crucial areas, I think, and he is quite wrong on basic things outside his discipline. I think he might, given information he doesnnot have, help come up with something.

He strikes me as a fine man, a mature and wise one. I think, if one can detect from such an interview a decent one, honest and probably more concerned than the cold words of the interview show.

I expect a need to be in Wilmington in a couple of weeks or so. It is then I'd like to see him. No one day, just anytime after a couple of weeks have passed, to take care of some business. I can stay with my mother in Wilmington or my sister in Broomall.

Please speak to him for me. Tell him I will show him what he hasn't seen (without any indication of what, if you guess).

Meanwhile, please also tell me what you know about him-his job, to whom he may be beholden, may have to answer. I do not want to confront him with conflicts or embarrass him in any way. This could be very, very important for a number of reasons.

You made very few mistakes, but you did make some, confusing some things, as a fist-sized piece of brain when it was bullet-sized. And what Harper found was solid, not brain, and despite what he told you: not 125 feet away.

The stuff on the goatsein is marvellous. You certainly must use that. His comparison with AR15-16 bullets is irrelevant, for they have a different kind of jacket, as Dick can better explain. You confused military rifle for military ammo, but he may have straightened that out. His comment on cratering can be important. Perhaps you may want to reread this and see if you can carry it further.

This man has all the right suspicions. His understanding is excellent. He is probably off on a few details, but in those cases I think he was guessing. Where he is off, he is in the right direction, however.

If he agrees and his personal life does not make it undesireable, after work would suit me fine...I am really impressed with how perceptive he is. He told you things that are absolutely so and have never been mentioned. Of course, Finck or others may have told him, but they are not generally known. And he is absolutely right about them.

Congratulations. Great job. How did you learn about him and get him to give you that much time?

Best,